



United States
Environmental Protection Agency
Pacific Southwest Region



**EMERGENCY PREVENTION, PREPAREDNESS, AND RESPONSE
PROGRAM UPDATE FOR NEVADA SERC
MEETING IN RENO ON APRIL 9, 2009**

PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

Risk Management Plan Resubmissions for 2009

The federal Risk Management Plans (RMPs) from required facilities must be fully updated and resubmitted at least every five years. The five-year anniversary for most of the approximately 8,000 facilities nationwide will be June 2009. The facilities will need to resubmit their RMPs online via EPA's secure Web site. This RMP eSubmit program became available in mid-March 2009. For more information, please check the Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/rmp>. The old "RMP Submit" software and diskettes used since 1999 are being phased out. The 2009 RMP resubmissions will be Web-based reporting through EPA's Central Data Exchange (CDX). This will improve data quality, timeliness, accessibility and security for facilities and the government.

FACT SHEET: A Checklist for Submitting Your Risk Management Plan (RMP) for Chemical Accident Prevention was issued in March 2009 – including instructions on completion of the Electronic Signature Agreement (ESA) that needs to be mailed to the US EPA.

Emergency Preparedness Meetings for 2009

The National Association of SARA Title III Program Officials (NASTTPO) will hold its annual meeting in Boise, Idaho the week of April 20. The NASTTPO "mid-year" meeting will again be held during HazMat Explo returning to the Orleans Hotel and Conference Center in Las Vegas the week of October 19. This will be in collaboration with the annual EPA Western Regions' Emergency Prevention and Preparedness combined conference agenda for October 20 – 22. All SERC and LEPC members are invited to attend. More information and the draft agendas will be posted on the NASTTPO Web site at: www.NASTTPO.org. (More information about HazMat Explo can be found on its Web site at: www.hazmatexplo.org.)

EPA Pacific Southwest Regional Annual Progress Report 2009

The annual progress report 2009 for the EPA Pacific Southwest Region's environmental programs is expected to be posted to our Web site around April 20 during Earth Week at: www.epa.gov/region9/annualreport.

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EPA Exempts Air Emissions from Animal Waste

The U.S. EPA announced a final rule on December 12, 2008 that provides an exemption for reporting air releases from sources of animal waste at farms of any hazardous substance at or above the reportable quantity for those hazardous substances. The EPA is indicating that these reports are unnecessary because there is no reasonable expectation that a Federal response would be made as a result of such reports. The final rule (originally effective January 20, 2009) reduces the burden of complying with the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and to a limited extent, the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) reporting requirements on the regulated community.

A fact sheet completed in February 2009 and more information can be found on the EPA's Office of Emergency Management Web site (www.epa.gov/emergencies) about this regulation: "CERCLA / EPCRA Administrative Reporting Exemption for Air Releases of Hazardous Substances from Animal Waste at Farms."

Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) Reporting Requirement Changes

The Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) reporting requirements changed recently as a result of a change in the federal law. The 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act signed by President Barack Obama on March 11, 2009, returned TRI reporting requirements back to the rules in effect prior to December 22, 2006. These changes affect TRI reports due July 1, 2009.

The change requires that all reports on persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic (PBT) chemicals be submitted on "Form R," the more detailed form. For all other chemicals the shorter form, "Form A" may be used only if the "annual reporting amount" is 500 pounds or less and that the chemical was manufactured, processed or otherwise used in an amount not exceeding 1 million pounds during the reporting year.

EPA will issue a rule shortly revising the regulatory text in the Code of Federal Regulations to reflect these changes. TRI-ME software and other reporting assistance materials are being revised and will be available soon.

EPA understands that due to the timing of the legislation, facility owners and operators, including many small businesses, will not have as much time as usual to prepare TRI estimates, and they may not have acquired or retained the relevant data from 2008. Owners or operators of facilities may use readily available data, or where such data are not available, reasonable estimates, of the amounts involved in completing the Form R. TRI reports for 2008 are due on July 1, 2009. If you have any questions about reporting requirements, please contact the EPA / TRI Information Center at:

(800) 424-9346 - select option 3

(800) 553-7672 - TDD

EPA Issues Latest Report on Toxic Chemical Releases in Nevada

Toxic releases into the environment from facilities operating in Nevada increased two percent in 2007 when compared to 2006, according to the latest data available from the U.S. EPA.

The data comes from the EPA's Toxic Release Inventory, commonly referred to as TRI. It is one of the EPA's largest publicly available databases and provides communities with valuable information on more than 650 toxic chemicals released by various industries. Total releases include toxic chemicals discharged by facilities to air, water, land, underground, and the amount transferred off-site for disposal. Regulatory controls apply to many of the reported releases. Reporting facilities must comply with environmental standards set by local, state and federal agencies.

Data from 2007 in Nevada shows:

- On-site releases increased 3.4 million pounds, a 2 percent increase.
- Air releases decreased 7.8 percent.
- Mercury releases increased 41 percent.
- Nevada's off-site releases, made up of transfers and disposals, nearly doubled in 2007, due mostly to one hazardous waste treatment and disposal facility.
- Metal mining facilities account for 96 percent of Nevada's chemical releases. Mining land releases and off-site disposal drove Nevada's 4.5 million pound increase.
- Water releases decreased 192,000 pounds from 2006 (more than 99 percent decrease) almost due entirely to one gold mine which reported a 191,000 pound decrease.

Annual Toxic Release Inventory reporting began in 1987. In 2000, TRI expanded to include persistent bioaccumulative and toxic chemicals, or PBTs, at ranges from 0.1 grams to 100 pounds. PBT pollutants are toxic chemicals that remain in the environment and food chain, posing risks to human health and the ecosystems.

Nationwide there was a 5 percent decrease in total disposal or other releases into the environment from 2006 to 2007. Lead showed a less than 1 percent increase (3.5 million pounds) from 2006-2007. Mercury releases increased by 38 percent (1.9 million pounds).

For the full EPA news release on March 19, 2009 for each state, please visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/> and click on the particular state, such as NV for Nevada.

For Nevada TRI highlights and details, please visit the Web sites:

<http://www.epa.gov/triexplorer> and

<http://www.epa.gov/enviro>

State fact sheets are available at: <http://www.epa.gov/triexplorer/statefactsheet.htm>.

Also, here is the link to the EPA's Nevada TRI State Report produced by EPA Region 9:

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/toxic/tri/report/07/tri-nv.html>.

SPCC Regulation Effective Date Extended Until January 2010

On April 1, 2009, the U.S. EPA published a final rule to further delay the effective date of the December 5, 2008 amendments to the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure regulations. The amendments will now become effective on January 14, 2010. Additionally, the EPA is requesting public comment on whether a further delay of the effective date may be warranted. The rule does not change the compliance dates by which owners or operators of facilities must prepare or amend their SPCC Plans and implement those Plans in accordance with the 2002 SPCC rule. The current compliance date for the SPCC rule is July 1, 2009 for all facilities other than farms. However, farms must prepare or amend and implement an SPCC Plan when EPA establishes by rule a compliance date for farms.

Additional information about the 2008 amendments to the SPCC Rule is available at the following URL: www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/spcc

For questions about these rules, please contact EPA's Superfund, TRI, EPCRA, RMP and Oil Information Center at: 800-424-9346.

Updates to CAMEO's MARPLOT and ALOHA

A dramatically updated version of the Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operation's (CAMEO's) MARPLOT (version 4) was made available in late March for downloading, along with a maintenance upgrade to ALOHA version 5.4.1.1. For more information and to download MARPLOT 4.0 mapping go to the CAMEO Web site at: www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/cameo/marplot.htm . For the ALOHA air modeling, which includes an updated chemical library, go to download at: www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/cameo/aloha.htm .

EPA News Update:

Southern Nevada Joins EnviroFlash for Air Quality Information at Touch of Button

Residents of Las Vegas can now receive air quality information in a flash through a free service provided by the Clark County Department of Air Quality and Environmental Management and the U.S. EPA. EnviroFlash sends air quality information, such as forecasts and advisory notifications to subscribers via e-mail and is now available in southern Nevada. Based on Air Quality Index forecasts, EnviroFlash messages let subscribers know when air quality is good – or when it is time to take steps to reduce their exposure to pollution. That can be important information for sensitive populations like children, elderly citizens and people who suffer from cardiac problems or respiratory illnesses, like asthma. Subscribers can choose to receive forecasts every day or only when air quality is poor. More than 200 cities in 34 states now use the EnviroFlash service through EPA partnerships with state and local governments. Clark County residents can sign up for EnviroFlash by visiting <http://www.enviroflash.info> and entering their name, email address and zip code.

EPA Pacific Southwest EPP Program Contact

For more information about the U.S. EPA's Emergency Prevention and Preparedness program for Nevada, you may contact the liaison, Mike Ardito, at (415) 972-3081 or by email at ardito.michael@epa.gov .